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## DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

I, the below named inventor, hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first, and sole inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled GEAR ARRANGEMENT, the specification which was filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office on August 25, 2003 as Serial No. 10/647,912.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code §119(a)-(d) or §365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed: German Patent Application No. 102 39 577.2 filed August 23, 2002.

I hereby declare that all statements are made hereby of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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And I hereby appoint:

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Maurice E. Gauthier Reg. No. 20,798 - Reg. No. 24,445 Richard L. Stevens Matthew E. Connors Reg. No. 33,298 William E. Hilton Reg. No. 35,192 Patrick J. O'Shea -1. Reg. No. 35,305 - ... Reg. No. 35,985 Arlene J. Powers Richard L. Stevens, Jr. Reg. No. 44,357 Peter Stecher Reg. No. 47,259

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all of the firm of Samuels, Gauthier & Stevens, my attorneys with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

I request that all correspondence be directed to:

Patrick J. O'Shea, Esq. Samuels, Gauthier & Stevens, LLP 225 Franklin Street, Suite 3300 Boston, MA 02110

Helmut Thoma

02.10.2003

Date

Residence:

Dorfstrasse 8a

D-79843 Löffingen

Germany

Citizenship

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